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This work on Medical Botany, which is very complete in its way, is rather historical than practical or scientific. No attempt is made to fix upon the real value of the plants in medicine, the names of the species and varieties—to the number of 1300—being given in botanical sequence, and having appended a list of the properties which have at one time or another been credited to them. As a result we have an excellent record of the popular estimate, past and present, of our North American plants, but little that could guide any one, except to certain failure, in their use. Thus we find ascribed to Hepatica astringent, hepatic, pectoral, demulcent, deobstruent and tonic properties; and yet its reputation in hepatic disorders is antiquated, having arisen solely from the fancied resemblance of its appearance to that of the liver, and it is now considered by all scientific authorities as being nearly inert. To nine genera in Caryophyllaceæ are ascribed important actions while in reality that family is the type of inertness. We miss from the list of consulted works given in the preface, the name of that one that would have been of most value to our author, the Medical Botany of North America, by Dr. Laurence Johnson. That work, which we have, however, always held to be too conservative, represents more nearly the modern estimate of our vegetable drugs, and challenges a majority of the statements as to medicinal activity made in the pages of the book before us. H. H. R.

Uromyces Trifolii. Lucien W. Underwood. (Bot. Gazette, xiii., 301, 302.)

Proceedings of the Club.

The regular monthly meeting was held Tuesday evening, December 11, 1888, the President in the chair and 20 persons present.

Mr. Sterns, Chairman of the Committee appointed at the last meeting to consider the matter of the proposed Botanic Garden, presented a report, which was accepted, and the Committee was enlarged to eight members.

The amendment to the Constitution proposed at the November meeting, increasing the annual dues from two dollars to four dollars and including all the publications of the Club, was unanimously adopted. A paper by Dr. Thos. Morong, on "First Glimpses of South American Vegetation," was read by the Secretary.

The desirability of increasing the scope of the Club's publications was discussed, and authority was given the editors to inaugurate a new series to be called "MEMOIRS," and to contain papers too long for printing in the BULLETIN.

At the adjourned meeting of December 26th the Vice-President was in the chair and 27 persons present.

Mr. S. A. Briggs, Mr. E. A. Congdon, Miss Lena Rowley, Miss Irene Halsted, Miss Louie R. Heller and Miss Helena D. Leaming were elected Active Members.

Prof. Joshua Paul of Salt Lake City, Utah, was elected a Corresponding Member.

Mr. Van Brunt read a paper on "The Flora of the Higher Catskills."

A collection of plants made by Rev. Dr. Chas. H. Hall in the Yellowstone National Park in June, 1888, was shown and commented upon by Dr. Britton. Among them were the following species not recorded in Mr. Frank Tweedy's Catalogue:

Ranunculus alismæfolius, Geyer; *Camelina sativa* (L.), Crantz; *Polygala paucifolia*, Willd., apparently not before reported from the Rocky Mountain region and possibly not collected quite within the confines of the park, but certainly very near to them; *Dodecatheon Jeffreyi*, Moore, var. *alpinum*, Gray; *Hydrophyllum capitatum*, Dougl.; *Mertensia oblongifolia*, Don; *Lithospermum angustifolium*, Michx.; *L. pilosum*, Nutt.; *Echinospermum deflexum*, Lehm.; *Oxybaphus nyctagineus*, Sweet; *Polygonum ramosissimum*, Michx., and *Carex Hoodii*, Boott.

Dr. Hall gave an interesting account of his trip and of the circumstances under which the plants were collected.

Miss McCabe exhibited a bifurcated frond of *Aspidium acrostichoides*, gathered from a plant which had produced similar fronds for the past seven years; also specimens of *Aster linariifolius* in which the extremities of all the rays were laciniate.

Miss Clark showed *Polygonum articulatum* and *Pogonia trianthophorus* gathered at Intervale, N. H., on the eastern slope of the White Mountains.